

HOWNIKAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE



Vol. 22, No. 8

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

August 2000

FireLake Discount Foods quickly taking shape

Tribe begins interviewing prospective store employees

By Dennette Bare

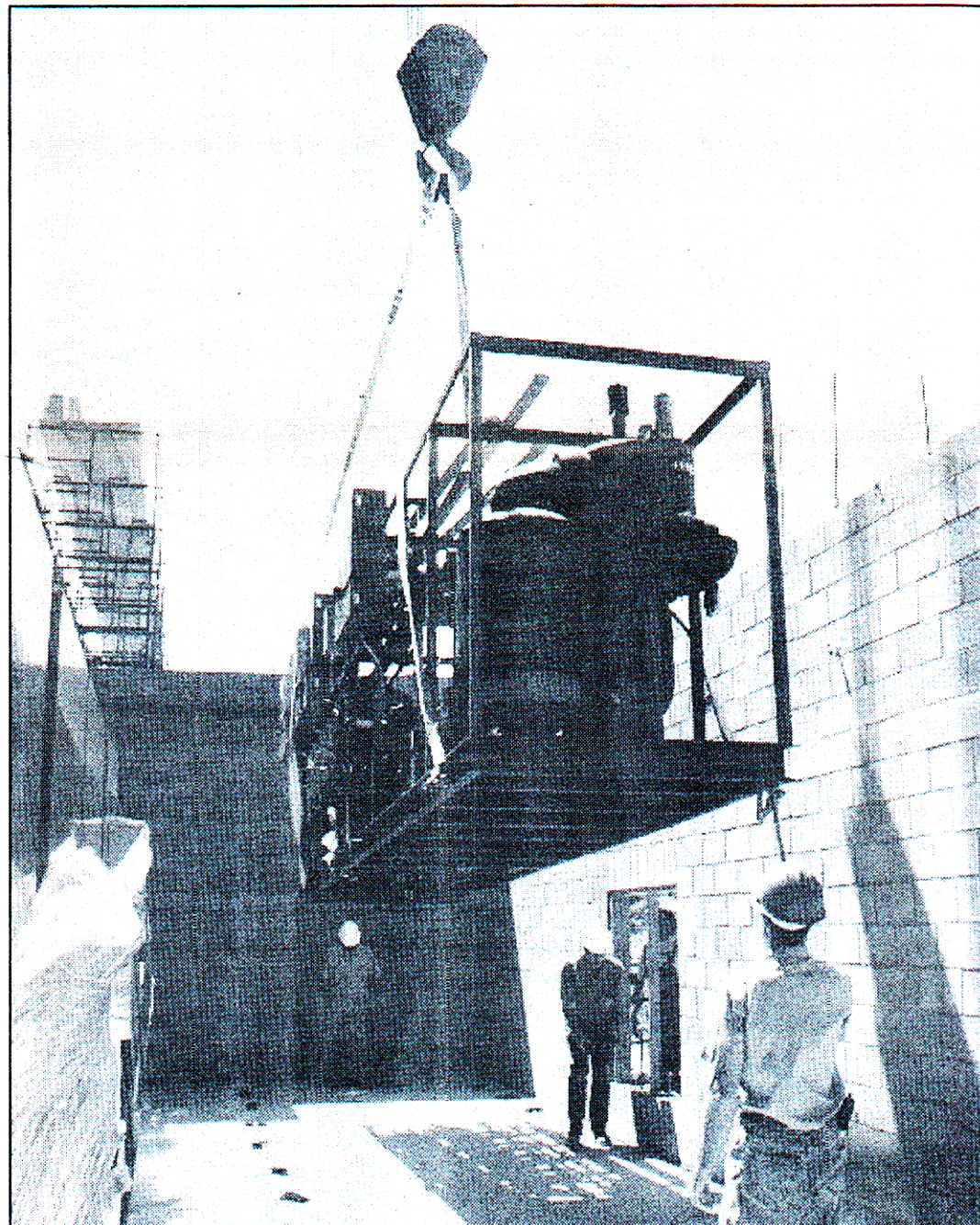
As the temperatures reach record-breaking highs, construction workers at FireLake Discount Foods continue sculpting the 86,000 square foot facility. Crews have completed the exterior block walls, begun work on the roof and plan to pour the parking lot early next week. Upon completion of the roof, the inside of the store will begin to take shape. Refrigeration cases and shelving will be set and the 2-Cool refrigeration / freezer system, delivered in early September, will be fully installed.

On track for the opening in February, many are excited about the progress. Terry O'Rorke, director of operations, has announced the use of online shopping and a frequent buyer program. O'Rorke explained that with online shopping, anyone could order their groceries via the Internet and can either pick their groceries up or have them delivered. He added that delivery will be available within a certain radius of the store and for a nominal fee, both of which will be set at a later date.

The frequent buyer program will allow customers to accumulate a cash base on a customer loyalty card by buying selected items. The selected items will be chosen by the individual vendors and will change from week to week. The accumulated cash base on the loyalty card can be utilized at the following tribal enterprises: FireLake Golf Course, FireLake Mini-Putt, FireLake Bowling Center and the tribal stores. The card cannot be redeemed for tobacco or alcohol products or for use in the entertainment center.

Both the online shopping and frequent buyer programs are in the development stage and a completion date has yet to be announced.

FireLake Discount Foods is currently seeking experienced applicants for the following positions: meat market managers, meat cutters, bakery managers, deli managers, produce managers, cashiers, stockers, and office help. To apply, contact Nancy Moore at (405) 878-4850.



The Grocery Store's State-Of-The-Art Refrigeration System Is Lowered Into Place

Potawatomi Nation Tribal Member Photo ID Cards

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Rolls Department is now setting appointments for new picture ID enrollment cards to be made Saturday, Oct. 21. The tribe will issue each enrolled member one free photo ID. Subsequent ID cards will cost \$5.

In addition, Tribal Rolls staff members are setting appointments from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on weekdays. It is necessary to make an appointment to avoid waiting in line or other delays in delivery service. Please contact Tribal Rolls by calling 1-800-880-9880 or 405-275-3121.

All picture ID appointments will be conducted at the Tribal Headquarters at 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma. Proper identification is required. Proper identification is one of the following: CPN enrollment card, driver's license, or birth certificate.



TRIBAL TRACTS

From Our Mailbox

Dear Scholarship Committee:

I just wanted to thank you for all the assistance you have given me while I am trying to obtain financial aid. You have always been very kind and patient with me. The grants I have received from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation have helped me so much. I love Stillwater and O.S.U. and I know I wouldn't be here without your help. I just wanted you to know I am grateful for everything.

Erica A. Rhodd

Dear Scholarship Committee:

Once again your scholarship funding has enabled me to continue my education. I cannot begin to tell you how blessed I feel and how fortunate. I thank all those responsible for providing these scholarships that benefit so many in so many ways. Once again I thank you and I thank God for his continued blessings. I am very proud to be Potawatomi.

Megwetch,

Tim DeCoursey, Jr.



How-Ni-Kan

Bozho Nikanek:

I would like to express my support for three activities sponsored by our tribe. The Potawatomi Festival, the

Regional Meetings, and the Potawatomi webpages on the Internet. These three activities serve the same goal, strengthening the family feeling of being Potawatomi. Our tribe is far-flung and we need these special ties to bring us together.

The festival allowed us to visit and play with our own kind. This feeling of intimacy and of belonging is great. Knowing that everyone you meet is a family member gives the Festival a special atmosphere.

The Regional Meetings are the single most effective way to share the tribe with our members, the majority of which live at a distance from the Headquarters. Perhaps the local residents don't realize how fortunate they are to be able to easily touch base with the Headquarters. The rest of us need the annual Regional Meeting to stay tuned with the leadership and tribe. Any candidate who would run for Tribal Chairman must realize the importance of Regional Meetings. If the business committee senses that a large proportion of tribal voters supports a particular candidate, I would hope that they continue their support for Regional Meetings regardless of which candidate is running.

The Internet has been a cohesive factor in Indian Country. Our own tribe has again shown the way to this new medium, with a great information page on the net as well as internet services provided locally.

I take pride in the Tribal enterprises and look forward to continual progress for all Citizen Potawatomi members.

Pama mine"

Jack Wooldridge

Dear HowNiKan:

I want to say thank you for the enjoyable time my family and I had at the Potawatomi Festival this year. And thank you to all of those who worked so hard to make sure everyone was taken care of!

I am very grateful the tribe made the change from intertribal contest pow wow to the more pleasant and friendly setting of the Festival for our tribal members. All of those contests at intertribal pow wow are excruciating! I also appreciate that the tribe has made attendance at our annual event more affordable as well by providing great food at no cost, not to mention all the scheduled activities.

I look forward to watching the Festival evolve from year-to-year. I am in hopes that more cultural events will be added to the agenda; more "traditional" dancing; intense language classes; inviting a drum from one of the other Potawatomi Bands would be nice - It would be spine-tingling to hear the Potawatomi Flag Song at the opening of our dance.

Thanks for all your hard work and welcomed changes!

Very truly yours,

Elizabeth Hancock
Bourassa-Curley



Bouzho Nicon,

We wanted to write and express how much we love the Potawatomi Festival. It gave our family a chance to visit with distant cousins. Of course it seems we are related to everybody we meet while

at the Festival.

Our brother and sister's small children started dancing this year at the Festival. We would have not tried this if we were still having the very **Large Intertribal Pow Wow!** The children danced every dance. We were so proud. All of the Wamego family that were at the Festival were so happy. We knew our dad, grandfather, grandmother and ancestors were also dancing with us. They were sharing in our joy at seeing the present generation pass on tradition to the next generation of Potawatomi. We hope that our Festival will continue to reflect our Potawatomi traditions.

Several of us attended the Potawatomi Gathering 2000 put on by the Forest County Potawatomi. It was wonderful and our Festival is very much like the Gathering. It was a tremendous feeling seeing that many Potawatomi in one place. Knowing that we have common ancestry, beliefs and traditions with people who live hundreds of miles away from us.

I think it is rare to travel some place new and feel completely comfortable and at home. That is how we felt on the Forest County Grounds. Our only hope is that next year more Citizen Band Potawatomi would attend the Gathering at Parry Island, Canada.

Megwetch, Igweheyen

Bill Wamego's Family
Tulsa, Oklahoma



How Nikan to all you Nish Na Ba's,

I just got my July Issue of How Nikan and wanted to compliment you on the photos taken by Holly Gordon. Especially the one with little girl and her five dollars. Very nice issue!

I also wanted to say the purchase of the property in Topeka was great. Very wise purchase. I went to Topeka this summer and saw it. The property is on a lovely hill overlooking the Kansas Historical Building and the Potawatomi Mission. Great location. Great investment.

Keep up the good work.

James Lemon
El Dorado, Arkansas



HOW-NI-KAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

The HowNiKan is published by the Business Committee of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation with offices at 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801.

The HowNiKan is mailed free to enrolled tribal members. Subscriptions to non-members are available for \$10 annually in the United States and \$12 for foreign countries.

The HowNiKan is a member of the Native American Journalists Association. Reprint permission is granted with publication credit to the HowNiKan and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

All letters and submissions become the property of the HowNiKan. Editorials and letters are subject to editing and must contain a traceable address. Final selection of material for publication is subject to approval by the Business Committee.

All correspondence should be directed to HowNiKan, 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Ok. 74801. Address changes should be sent to Potawatomi Tribal Rolls, 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Business Committee
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Sec./Treasurer - Gene Bruno
Committeeman - Hilton Melot
Committeeman - Jerry P. Motley

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<http://www.potawatomi.org>

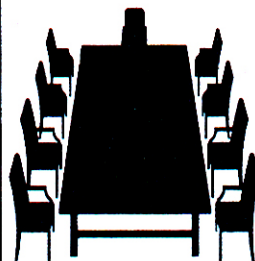
QUARTERLY BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

August 31, 2000
November 30, 2000

February 22, 2001
May 31, 2001

6 P.M.

Employment & Training Conference Room
Citizen Potawatomi Nation Headquarters
1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee



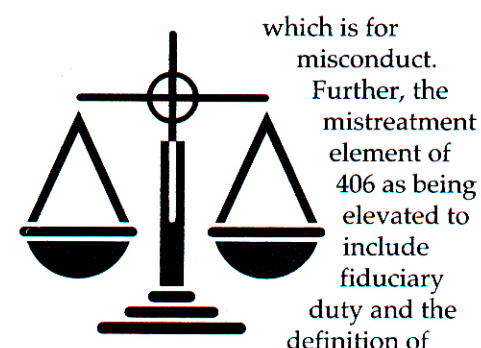
TRIBAL TRACTS



Tribal court dismisses case involving Barrett grievance

On August 8, 2000, Judge Phil Lujan dismissed Case No. CIV-00-05 in the matter of the Grievance Committee, Plaintiff vs. John A. Barrett, Jr., Defendant. This case began when Johnny Flynn filed for a protective order in both the Tribal Court and the State Court and at the same time filed a grievance with the tribal administration. The case presented in state court was dismissed for lack of jurisdiction and the case as presented to the tribal court was also dismissed because no legal basis in Potawatomi law exists to support the EPO petition.

A grievance, which is an administrative procedure filed through tribal administration, was then presented to the Grievance Committee. This committee met with the tribal attorney who represents the Grievance Committee in matters of the court. The Grievance Committee, guided by the 1987 Recall and Removal Ordinance, filed a recall petition on the basis of their findings. At the hearing, the court found as follows "the issue of maintaining the distinction between the removal and the recall procedure is adopted by the Court. That the use of 406 blurs unnecessarily and improperly by the Grievance committee the distinction between removal for criminal conduct under Article 9 and recall under Article 8



misconduct is an improper use of mistreatment and blurs the distinction once again between criminal and misconduct and accordingly the Grievance Committee's forwarding of this recall must fail."

Judge Phil Lujan also stated in the court minute that the defendant's actions resulting "in this matter were not exercised of official duty and accordingly were not oppression in office because it has no relevancy or no action of the Chairman's office in either its offer or even in its execution."

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Court maintains all of the relevant documents and pleadings and makes them available as public record in the tribal court clerks office. The only case pending at this date is the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Business Committee vs. John A. Barrett, Jr., Chairman, Case No. CIV-00-08 filed August 1, 2000.

Tribal member interns with Rep. Tom Udall

U.S. Representative Tom Udall (D-NM) enlisted UNM law student Mark Welliver as an intern this summer. The internship is sponsored by the Morris K. Udall Foundation's Native American Congressional Internship Program, part of the foundation established by Congress in 1992 to honor Udall's uncle, "Mo" Udall, who served three decades in the U.S. House of Representatives.

During his internship, Welliver worked on a number of issues including researching Native American legislation that Udall is currently drafting.

When Welliver returns to New Mexico next week, he will begin his second year at the University of New Mexico School of Law. His studies will focus on UNM's Indian Law Certificate Program and Indian Law Clinic. In addition to academics, he will serve as secretary to the UNM chapter of the Native American Law Students Association and as Tribal Profile Editor of UNM's recently introduced Tribal Law Journal (<http://tlj.unm.edu>), the first on-line law journal to provide a forum for the discussion of indigenous law encompassing tribal codes, case law, custom and usage.

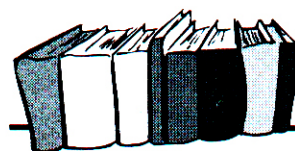
"Mark has been a real asset to me this summer," Udall said. "His understanding and appreciation of Native American issues has benefited the people of New Mexico. I am quite proud of him."

Last summer's Morris K. Udall Foundation Intern, Brenna Clani, was hired by Udall to staff his office in Gallup, New Mexico.

"I am glad to have had the opportunity to serve in Congressman Udall's office," Welliver said. The experience gained this summer has enriched and has increased my interest in Indian law and policy."

Welliver is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma.

Udall is currently accepting applications for interns in his Washington and state offices for the fall.



BOOK REPORT

By Hyale Smith
Tribal Rolls Assistant

Title: *Wisdom's Daughters, Conversations with Women Elders of Native America*

Author: Steve Wall

Publisher: Harper Collins Publishers, 1993

When I first looked through this book, the following statement caught my eye:

"On Being a Houseplant — 'I come around here once and I'm not going to waste it. I'm not going to sit home and be a houseplant.'" This philosophical gem came from Janice, one of thirteen Native American women the author interviewed and photographed for this book.

The purpose of the book is to describe Native American traditions, daily routine and ancestral knowledge from the feminine perspective. Steve Wall is wise enough to let these women share their teachings, beliefs, and concerns through

their own words. He stays in the background, letting these spiritual leaders speak for themselves.

Their backgrounds are diverse, as are their personalities. However they all share a common concern for our environment and the loss of their culture. They also share a strong commitment to passing their knowledge and wisdom down to the next generation.

As Lena says: "Someday I might grow old and my girls will be able to know where I come from. Hopefully they will say, 'My mother taught me; it still stays up here. I'll never forget it.'" And perhaps, too, some of this book's readers will remember where they come from and who they are.

If you are interested in reading this book, you can check with your local library or bookstore. (The Tribal Library does not lend books; it is for on-site research only.).

It's Your Newspaper!

The HowNiKan welcomes contributions from tribal members, especially stories of their accomplishments. Please send information and photographs to Mary Ferrell at tribal headquarters. Deadline is the 5th of the month.

TRIBAL TRACTS

Walking on

Michael Wesley Watson

Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member Michael Wesley Watson of Phoenix, Arizona, walked on July 27, 1999. He was 45. The second child of Potawatomi tribal member Shirley Jean Jones, he was born in Sapulpa, Oklahoma on February 21, 1954. Mike was struck by lightning while dirt bike riding in the hills north of Phoenix; taken in a flash by God while doing something he loved.

He is survived by his older brother, Larry of Los Angeles, his mother, his daughter Michelle and son Scott, all of Phoenix. His loving generosity, his boundless energy, his laughter and bright smile will be sorely missed by all that knew him.

Lucille Smith

Lucille Smith was called to her heavenly home August 17, 2000, at the age of 84 years, 4 months and 6 days.

Lucille was the granddaughter of Susan (Williams) Pettifer.

Lucille and her parents, George & Elizabeth Pettifer were one of the seven Potawatomi families to arrive at their allotments in the new reservation area near Asher in the early spring of 1871. Her mother Winnie Williams was orphaned at an early age and attended school at Sacred Heart where she met and married Charles Henry Saladine.

She is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, Mary and Bobby Cottman and two grandsons, Doug and Bill Cottman, and five great-grandchildren, Brian, Chris, Kia, Tony and Levi Cottman. She will be greatly missed.

DONATIONS

Tim Guss, Arizona - \$5
William & Jo Hoogstraten, Michigan - \$20
Bobby & Mary Cottman, Arkansas - \$20

UCLA chooses tribal member for Resident Honors Program

Genevieve Dunaway, daughter of Mr. Joseph Dunaway and Mrs. Alison Dunaway of Oklahoma City, OK and a descendent and member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, has been selected to participate in the Resident Honors Program at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Genevieve, a junior at Bishop McGuinness High School, is one of forty-three students, selected from a nationwide search, to participate in this highly competitive early entrance honors program this fall at USC.

Genevieve has been awarded a Trustee Scholarship from USC. The Trustee Scholarship Award is the highest academic honor at entrance given by USC. Genevieve will receive a full-tuition scholarship for four years valued at over \$85,000.

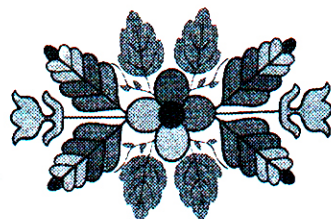
At USC, Genevieve will be enrolled in the Thematic Option Program, an interdisciplinary honors program which has been nationally recognized as one of the finest honors programs in the country. In addition, Genevieve will begin her major studies in Business Administration in the Marshall School of Business.

At Bishop McGuinness High School, Genevieve was a member of the French Honor Society, Students Against De-

structive Decisions (SADD), and Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). She was a member of the Varsity Track Team, Swim Team and Dance Team. Genevieve placed second in Girls' Pole Vault at the State Track Meet 1999-2000. She has attended the National Catholic Youth Conference in Kansas City and Native American Pow-Wows in Oklahoma. She has also worked at the Red Cross.

"RHP is an excellent opportunity for high school juniors who are academically ready for the challenges of college and who are mature enough to get a head start on their college career," said Dr. Penelope Von Helmolt, director of the program.

Bishop McGuinness High School provided outstanding support for this talented student, both through academic preparation and strong recommendations.



Brian Buettner

Tribal member receives health scholarship again

Home schooled since 1992, tribal member Brian Buettner, now 17, has been a two time recipient of the National Institute of Health High School Student Summer Research Program. In 1999, Brian was one of 36 recipients in the United States to receive the scholarship and in 2000 he was one of 40 recipients.

Brian's first scholarship gave him the opportunity to sequence the DNA of Lupus patients at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation in Oklahoma City. There, he sequenced the Fc Gamma Receptor IIA gene in 26 patients and 26 controls who had Lupus. Buettner found several exons within the gene that may be triggers that cause Lupus in humans. "Working at OMRF gave me the opportunity to explore different facets of chemistry and biology," said Buettner, "It was a great experience!"

This summer, Brian's research focused on breakthrough techniques in acupuncture. He worked with Dr. Brian McLaren, an Australian doctor that came to America to teach Photonic Acupuncture for a few years. Buettner attended several acupuncture settings, learned some acupuncture techniques, and did research on the history and evolution of acupuncture. In August, Brian flew to Washington, D.C. and presented his research to the directors of the National Institute of Health (NIH), M.O.T.T.E.P., and Howard University.

The two scholarships are not the first time Brian has been recognized for his academics in science. At the age of 15, Brian co-authored an article in the American Chemical Crystallography Journal. After several years of research conducted at OSU and Cameron University, Buettner found a missing link in the research and helped propel the research to publication quality. The article presented research to help in the development of a new drug to help treat arrhythmia.

Brian is also active in tennis, playing the viola, and being a teen representative for the Pioneer Library System in Moore, OK. Brian will graduate in May of 2001 and will be attending college. He has not made a final decision on which college he will attend. He has aspirations of becoming a Forensic Scientist with the FBI. Brian is the grandson of J.W. and Dorothy Strickland.

TRIBAL TRACTS

Soaring Eagles program helps first offenders

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation's FireLodge Children & Family Services department is conducting a diversion program for juveniles who have been arrested for non-violent or drug/alcohol related offenses. The Soaring Eagles First Offenders Program is considered a diversion program because it requires voluntary participation by the young offenders and his or her parents or guardians. The voluntary criteria promote offenders and parents to take responsibility for making changes in their behavior.

As an alternative resource for the tribal and state courts or other court-related services such as the prosecutor's office or probation department, Soaring Eagles has been designed to provide intervention to the young offender before the youth becomes involved in more frequent and serious delinquent behavior. Most of the youth involved in the program have not been adjudicated for their offense and, upon successful completion of the program, may have charges against him/her dropped as part of a deferred prosecution agreement.

Soaring Eagles First Offenders Program consists of seven consecutive weekly group meetings, each lasting between two and two and a half hours. The groups are comprised of 10-15 youth and their parents or guardians, siblings, and closest friends. These groups focus on an overview of the juvenile justice system, communication skills, gang information, HIV/AIDS/STD awareness, behavior management, conflict resolution, substance abuse, and Speak Out presentations from incarcerated juvenile and adult offenders. Presentations may be changed or added to accommodate a group's particular needs.

For more information, contact the FireLodge Children & Family Services department at 405-275-3176.

CPN POSITION OPENINGS

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has an immediate opening for a Dental Officer to join a team of health care professionals, providing the full scope of dental care to our patients. This is a new four-chair facility and a new service provided to our patients in our health complex. This position will be responsible for the development, management and administrative leadership of the dental clinic. Applications are being accepted from all interested parties. Position may be permanent or temporary, full-time, part-time or on a contractual basis. Send CVs or Resumes to Shirl Eastep, Human Resource Director, Citizen Potawatomi Nation, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Bingo Hall is looking for a surveillance operator. This is a part-time position (20-25 hours per week). This position will be responsible for monitoring the bingo, gaming room and off-track betting areas via CCTV and direct observation, maintaining the logbook of gaming and off-track betting activities and maintaining all surveillance equipment. Must be able to sit for long periods of time in a confined area. Please apply with Don Yott at the FireLake Bingo Hall. Closing date: October 1, 2000



Native American mortgages up

The Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) has released 1999 HMDA data on home mortgage lending showing a 59% jump in conventional mortgages made to Native Americans over the previous year and the largest single increase in the category of minority borrowers.

The 59% is greater than the increase in African American borrowers (+12.5%), Hispanics (+%), or Asian Americans (+16.9%). The FFIEC has collected and published statistics from banks, savings and loans, mortgage companies and other lending institutions that are subject to the provisions of the federal Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) since 1992. The yearly release of data tracks how well the Federal Home Loans banks and other lending institutions are serving underserved markets, as well as how well

they are complying with overall banking regulations.

"This shows some progress is being made, but we still have a long way to go," said NAIHC Chairman Chester Carl. "Mortgage lenders are only beginning to see that making loans to Native Americans, both on and off tribal lands, is good business for them."

"Despite the good news, the need for home loans in Indian Country remains immense," said Christopher D. Boesen, NAIHC Executive Director. NAIHC estimates that there is an immediate need for 200,000 housing units in Indian country. Boesen says industry experts estimate there are 38,000 qualified homebuyers in Indian country waiting for the opportunity for homeownership.

The denial of mortgage loans to Native Americans also dropped significantly, to under

45% for the first time. The data show a significant but declining turnaround rate for the year, from 52% in 1998 to 42.1% for 1999.

A total of 20,965 mortgages were made to Native Americans in 1999, a significant increase, but not all were for loans on tribal lands. Some of the loans made to Native American borrowers include properties that may be miles from Indian Country.

Though many tribes face chronic overcrowding and a lack of both rental units and permanent homes, each tribal housing authority has unique needs, which must be addressed in any mortgage partnership. Several tribes have been actively working with local banks and large mortgage guarantors, such as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, to deal with the specific mortgage needs of their tribe.

New program takes aim at digital divide

AmeriCorps*VISTA and PowerUP are taking steps to close the digital divide that looms large on Indian reservations.

AmeriCorps*VISTA is recruiting Native Americans to serve for a year to provide computer instruction at seven sites in Indian Country.

"By joining AmeriCorps*VISTA, members will receive the computer training they need to help other Native Americans overcome the digital divide that is threatening their communities," said Matt Dunne, director of AmeriCorps*VISTA. "With help from PowerUP, we want to open seven technology centers in Indian Country. We need AmeriCorps*VISTA members for each of these sites."

The technology centers will be in Anchorage, Ala.; Tempe, Ariz.; Lamé Deer, Mont.; Crownpoint, N.M.; Shiprock, N.M.; Pine Ridge, S.D.; and Hayward, Wis.

"The new PowerUP sites in Indian Country will help us achieve our goal of giving underserved youth access to technology and the skills they need to use this technology to

succeed in the information age," said Rae Grad, CEO of PowerUP. "We are committed to bringing PowerUP to 250 locations nationwide by the end of the year."

In addition to AmeriCorps*VISTA, PowerUP's national partners include: America's Promise; the Case Foundation; the Waitt Family Foundation; AOL, Inc./The AOL Foundation; Boys & Girls Clubs of America; YMCA of the USA; Communities in Schools; National Urban League; PowerBar, Inc.; Save the Children; Sun Microsystems; HUD; and the U.S. Department of Education. Through its commitment to PowerUP, AmeriCorps*VISTA is placing up to 400 members in school and community technology centers across the country.

This effort is part of the White House's Native American Initiative that was launched this spring. In April, President Clinton announced a program to offer low-cost telephone service on the nation's reservations as a first step toward integrating Native Americans into the information age. Among Native American

households with incomes of less than \$15,000, only 72.3 percent have telephones, the lowest level for any racial or ethnic group. And only 16.8 percent of Native American households at that income level have a computer. "The enhanced telephone service provides the opportunity to install computers and offer training," Dunne explained.

Native Americans who become AmeriCorps*VISTA members may continue to receive any federal or state benefits they received before becoming members, according to Dunne. In addition, they receive a living stipend while serving, and an education award of \$4,725 after completing a year of service.

For further information on serving with these programs, contact: John P. Oates, Anchorage, 907/249-5470; Ramon Elias, Tempe, 480/820-3688; Rick Robinson, Lamé Deer, 406/477-6654; Alvin Smith, Crownpoint, 505/786-7238; Tom Cunningham, Shiprock, 505/368-5044; Leatrice Big Crow, Pine Ridge, 605/867-1011; and Sarah Taylor, Hayward, 715/634-4030.

Potawatomi Gathering 2000



Chairman Barrett, John Bourbonnais, Tom Cooper



Tribal Members Tesia Zientek, Left, And Rion Tiger, Right, With Prairie Band Friends



Left: Justin Neely, Donna Barnard, Marj Hobdy



Right: Mary Attocknie, Betty Lowrey

Friendships renewed, new friends made at Gathering 2000

By Margaret Zientek

Before sunrise on July 25, Citizen Potawatomi tribal members began their journey to the Gathering of the Potawatomi Nations 2000. Seventeen tribal members boarded the bus sponsored by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Business Committee for the two-day bus trip to Carter, Wisconsin. Ages of those making the pilgrimage ranged from fourteen to seventy.

The Forest County Potawatomi hosted the event this year in the woods next to the Tribal Casino and Lodge

located approximately sixty miles south of Green Bay. Our hosts offered beautiful accommodations at the Lodge to all members of our group.

On Thursday, July 27, the Gathering of the Nations began at sunrise with the lighting of the Sacred Fire. In the woods with the morning mist rising stood men and shawl wrapped women offering prayers and tobacco.

After a hearty breakfast, our host, the Forest County Potawatomi, welcomed all the Nations. Members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation,

Gun Lake Potawatomi, Hannahville Potawatomi, Huron Potawatomi, Huron Potawatomi-Northern Branch, Prairie Band Potawatomi, Pokagon Potawatomi, and Walpole Island First Nation of Canada were welcomed!

Events scheduled throughout the day included Hide Tanning, Baby Moccasin Making, Basic Drawing, Dream Catchers, Language, History of Three Fires Nation. Group sessions were held by tribal leaders to discuss collective issues. Activities included trips to the Historical Cultural

Center & Museum under construction and the Tribal enterprise, Red Deer Ranch. Contemporary Native American singers including Bill Miller, Red Thunder, and Indigenous performed each echoing the same message to our youth — stay clear of drugs and alcohol. Evenings ended with pow wow dancing. Veterans were honored throughout the Gathering for their sacrifices and service to the country.

New friends were made. Old friendships renewed. Throughout the gathering the spirit of

reunion prevailed. Faces never seen before looked familiar. Children ran and played freely.

It was with hugs for the new friends, exchanges of addresses and phone numbers, and promises to see each other next year that our group left the Gathering for the long journey to Oklahoma and Texas.

The bus ride back was spent sharing. "I saw this ... Did you see? ... This is how you do that." Hugs, kisses and good-byes echoed in the parking lot when we returned. And the words —Next year, Canada!

Taking Tradition Into The Future

Right, Front Row:
Donna Barnard,
Tesia Zientek, Marj
Hobdy, Pat Brollier,
JayLene Brollier,
Margaret Zientek.
Back Row: Betty
Hancock, Chris
Osborne, Rion
Tiger, Justin Neely.



Margaret Zientek, Pat Brollier, Betty Hancock, Donna Barnard,
And Justin Neely Are Packed And Ready To Travel To The
Potawatomi Gathering



Clockwise From Left: Rion Tiger, Justin Neely, Chris Osborne, Tesia
Zientek, JayLene Brollier, And Bill The Bus Driver. That's Kelly
Townley Standing In Front Of Osborne.



BUSINESS COMMITTEE MINUTES

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION SPECIAL BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETING August 9, 2000

Present: Chairman John A. "Rocky" Barrett, Jr., Vice Chairman Linda Capps, Secretary / Treasurer Gene Bruno, Committeeman Hilton Melot, Deputy Administrator Bob Trousdale and Administrative Services Director Vickie Canfield.

Absent: Committeeman J. P. Motley

Call to Order: Chairman Barrett called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

First item of business: Minutes of the previous Business Committee meeting of July 26, 2000 were read and the fourth item of business was amended to reflect changing the 60 day exit provision to 48 hours. Motion to approve the minutes, as amended, was made by Gene Bruno and seconded by Linda Capps. Passed 4 voting for, 0 opposed, 1 absent, 0 abstentions.

Second item of business: Resolution 01-14- A resolution adopting pharmacy policy changes to comply with budget restraints. The following revisions were approved: (1) Raise the existing age limit to 63, grand-fathering in the 60-year-old existing Citizen Potawatomi Nation members. (2) Outsourcing mail-orders to Pequot. (3) Restrict formulary and reduce stock pharmaceuticals. (4) Tribe will make a contribution from Tribal funds to pay for non-formulary prescriptions for the Potawatomi tribal members. Motion to approve Resolution 01-14 was made by Linda Capps and seconded by Gene Bruno. Passed 5 voting for (via phone vote), 0 opposed, 0 absent, 0 abstentions.

Third item of business: Resolution 01-15 - A resolution approving the Agreement with Smarts Broadcast Systems and Westwood Radio One for automation of KGFF Radio Station. Motion to approve Resolution 01-15 was made by Linda Capps and seconded by John Barrett. Passed 5 voting for (via phone vote), 0 opposed, 0 absent, 0 abstentions.

Fourth item of business: There being no further business before the Committee, motion to adjourn was made by Hilton Melot and seconded by Gene Bruno. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes approved by:

John A. Barrett, Jr., Chairman

Gene Bruno, Secretary / Treasurer

— ✱ —

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION SPECIAL BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETING August 23, 2000

Present: Chairman John A. "Rocky" Barrett, Jr., Vice Chairman Linda Capps, Secretary / Treasurer Gene Bruno, Committeeman J. P. Motley, Committeeman Hilton Melot, Deputy Administrator Bob Trousdale and Administrative Services Director Vickie Canfield.

Absent: None

Guests: Court Clerk Vicki Lofton

Call to Order: Chairman Barrett called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

First item of business: Minutes of the previous Business Committee meeting of August 9, 2000 were approved on a motion made by Hilton Melot and seconded by Gene Bruno. Passed 5 voting for, 0 opposed, 0 absent, 0 abstentions.

Second item of business: Vicki Lofton presented a general discussion of the tribal court with an overview regarding activities and authorities of the court. (Please see attached report).

Business Committee adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Business Committee reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

Third item of business: Resolution 01-16 - A resolution duly adopted by the Business Committee of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation authorizing and approving the purchase of a Jacobsen Fairway Mower vital to the tribal operations of the Firelake Golf Course. Motion to approve Resolution 01-16 was made by J. P. Motley and seconded by John Barrett. Passed 5 voting for, 0 opposed, 0 absent, 0 abstentions.

Fourth item of business: Resolution 01-17 - A resolution approving the expenditure of \$6,500 of IHS funds for rehabilitation of a home at 1302 Gordon Cooper Drive to be utilized by the Behavioral Health program. Motion to approve Resolution 01-17 was made by Gene Bruno and seconded by Linda Capps. Passed 5 voting for, 0 opposed, 0 absent, 0 abstentions.

Business Committee was in Executive Session from 7:15 p.m. to 7:25 p.m.

Fifth item of business: There being no further business before the Committee, motion to adjourn was made by J. P. Motley and seconded by Hilton Melot. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes approved by:

John A. Barrett, Jr., Chairman

Gene Bruno, Secretary / Treasurer



BUSINESS COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions #01-14 Through 01-32

- 8-9-00 01-14 A resolution adopting pharmacy policy changes to comply with budget restraints 5-0-0-0
- 8-9-00 01-15 A resolution approving the agreement with Smarts Broadcast Systems and Westwood Radio One for automation of KGFF Radio Station 5-0-0-0
- 8-23-00 01-16 A resolution duly adopted by the Business Committee of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation authorizing and approving the purchase of a Jacobsen Fairway Mower vital to the tribal operations of the FireLake Golf Course. 5-0-0-0
- 8-23-00 01-17 A resolution approving the expenditure of \$6,500 of IHS funds for rehabilitation of a home at 1302 Gordon Cooper Drive to be utilized by the Behavioral Health Program. 5-0-0-0
- 8-23-00 01-18 VOID
- 8-28-00 01-19 A resolution authorizing the borrowing of funds on behalf of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and authorizing Chairman John A. Barrett, Jr. and Vice Chairman Linda Capps to sign documents necessary for the loan. 5-0-0-0
- 8-28-00 01-20 A resolution authorizing the withdrawal of funds on behalf of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and authorizing Chairman John A. Barrett, Jr. and Vice Chairman Linda Capps to sign documents necessary for the withdrawal 5-0-0-0
- 8-31-00 01-21 A resolution authorizing a contract for bridge design under the authority of Public Law 93-638 and submittal of a proposal for a design project pursuant to Public Law 93-638 and Public Law 100-472 for the Engineering Survey, Geotechnical investigation and design of certain bridges. 5-0-0-0
- 8-31-00 01-22 A resolution authorizing the tribal attorney to file a brief in support of appeal of BIA decision not to negotiate 24 line items in the FY 2000 Annual Funding Agreement 5-0-0-0
- 8-31-00 01-23 A resolution pertaining to enrollment into the Citizen Potawatomi Nation 5-0-0-0
- 8-31-00 01-24, 01-24, 01-25, 01-26, 01-27, 01-28, 01-29, 01-30, 01-31 A resolution pertaining to enrollment into the Citizen Potawatomi Nation by descendency 5-0-0-0
- 8-31-00 01-32 A resolution pertaining to the relinquishment of James H. Deatherage, Jr. from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation 5-0-0-0

ATTENTION STUDENTS

Many houses, apartments, and dormitories built before 1978 have paint that contains lead (called lead-based paint). Lead from paint, chips and dust can pose serious health hazards if not taken care of properly.

Because the Department of Housing and Urban Development funds the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority, we must meet certain environmental requirements. Therefore, college students applying for housing assistance will now be required to submit certain documents, before receiving the housing funds.

If you are renting or buying a home, a copy of the latest tax statement must be provided verifying the date the home was built. If you are renting an apartment a copy of the building permit must be submitted or a notarized statement from the owner or manager of the complex verifying date. If you will be residing in a dormitory, a notarized statement from your college housing officer/manager will be required verifying the date the dormitory was built.

Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Donna Bane at 1-800-880-9880 or locally at 878-4819.

NOTE: Please review your student housing application for completeness. The portion of your application that requests total number of household members refers to your living arrangements when actually in school.

RETURN NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2000.

**FUNDING FOR FALL SEMESTER 2000 WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE
IF RECEIVED AFTER OCTOBER 1.**

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION HOUSING AUTHORITY

Bouzho Nicon,

This week we will be starting the annual round of Regional Council Meetings. The meetings this year are very important. The tribe is in a critical stage in its development as a government.

I urge you — in fact, I beg you — to please attend.

I will be presenting a proposal for the most sweeping change in our history as a tribal government — making the Regional Councils part of the Constitutional government. Because we have been holding Regional Councils for 16 years, many people assume they are a required constitutional function



From The Chairman

By John A. "Rocky" Barrett

of our tribal government. This is not so. They are being held at the discretion of the Business Committee. If a future Business Committee decided to never show up in the Regions again, or refused to provide the funding for a Regional Office,

nothing in our Constitution requires them to do so. Even now, the Regional Councils' role in tribal government is only advisory. You 20,000 plus members who do not live in Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma or a county that touches

it, cannot run for office in your tribal government.

I propose that the Constitution of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation be amended to create a Tribal Legislature to replace the Business Committee. Right now, the Business Committee contains the Executive Officers as well as Committeemen. With the Constitution giving reserved powers to the Executive Officers, the balance of power so essential for a smooth functioning government is unbalanced.

The CPN Legislature would be made up of eighteen elected Representatives with sole authority to set the tribal budget and appropriate money for tribal operations. The amendment I am proposing would allow each of the nine Regional Councils to elect a Representative to the Citizen Potawatomi Legislature. In addition to the nine Regional Representatives, four more Representatives would have to reside anywhere in Oklahoma, four more would have to reside in Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma or counties that touch Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma, and one would have to reside in the tribal jurisdiction (original reservation area). Population weighting would be allowed. If the population of a Region declined below a certain percentage of the total population, it would be combined with another Region. Then its vote would be given to the largest of the Regions. In all circumstances, the proportion of the legislature would be weighted equally between Oklahoma Representatives and Regional Representatives because the tribal land base is in Oklahoma. (Without a territory, we are not a government.)

The Legislature would elect a presiding officer among themselves and create such subcommittees as are necessary for their work. The Secretary / Treasurer and the two Business Committeemen will automatically be seated in the legislature and serve out their remaining terms as Representatives from Pottawatomie County, Okla-

homa or counties that touch Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma.

The Legislature would meet on a monthly basis with the Regional Representatives hooked up to the Legislative session via the Internet. They would be able to see and hear the people in Shawnee, and the people in Shawnee would be able to see and hear them. They would be paid for their time. Any members who wished to watch could attend the meetings in the Regional offices with the Internet camera. This system would save the cost of monthly travel to Shawnee by members of the Legislature. The tribe presently has the technological capability and the equipment to accomplish this. The Legislature would convene at Tribal Headquarters in Shawnee, Oklahoma with everyone in attendance once per year in the same week as the Heritage Festival.

The Executive branch of the tribal government would consist of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. They would have authority over the day-to-day operations of the tribe but not have a vote on the budget or legislation. The Executive branch would make tribal appointments with the advice and consent of the Legislature. The Chairman would have the ability to veto an act of the Legislature. The veto could be overridden by a 2/3 vote of the Legislature. The Tribal Courts would still have the ability to declare acts of the Legislature unconstitutional.

My fellow Potawatomi, I am begging you to consider reforming the present Constitution. Throughout our history since 1984 when the present constitution was adopted, we have had the good fortune to have very few instances of problems within the Business Committee that were harmful to the tribe. But that has only been good fortune, and not as a result of sound government structure that offers real protection for the assets and functions of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. We are much too large and have too much at stake to leave us without future safeguards. Consider this amendment, please.

Megwetch,

John Barrett

FROM THE VICE CHAIRMAN

By Linda Capps

A Business Committee Perspective

Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal members often call, write, or e-mail the headquarters for advice on how to begin a small business and where to locate resources for financing their business loans. When the correspondence is directed to me, I usually refer our Oklahoma tribal members to the Small Business Administration Business Development Center closest to their residence.

Rural Enterprises, Inc. (REI) of Durant, Oklahoma is another good resource, especially for entrepreneurs who wish to expand their existing business. REI, which began as an economic development authority for southeastern Oklahoma, is now providing services statewide. Their office has provided the names of the Texas and Kansas locations that operate programs and provide services similar to the program in Durant. Anyone wishing to have a copy of those locations can contact me at 1-800-880-9880.

Our tribe's Business Committee members are keen on the idea of assisting tribal members with information that helps promote their businesses. In fact, we have discussed the concept of providing a business specialist to assist tribal members with their business development needs.

Speaking of the Business Committee members, we have been quite busy recently with various activities within the tribe. Each of us strives to stay abreast of the progress on the

construction of the grocery store. We realize that the success of the grocery store is an important factor to the future of our tribe's economic stability. Gaming has been good to us throughout the past fifteen years in providing a steady economic tax base for our general account. Unfortunately, gaming is not resistant to change. The status of the stability of our gaming hinges on too many outside factors. An Act of Congress that would allow taxation or regulation of our gaming by the state could adversely affect our gaming revenues.

For a long time, our Business Committee members have been faced with the question of how to establish a more permanent income for the future of tribal operations. We hope that building the grocery store is the first project of a new beginning for economic development. It is our vision to become less dependent on gaming and more reliant on our various enterprises.

This month we begin our travel to each regional area with our first meeting in Colorado. Cheryl DeGraff will be hosting us as the new Denver regional director. We will be taking pictures for the new picture identification cards that are issued through Tribal Rolls. The new ID cards have been very popular with our tribal members. We hope the cards will be a big attraction for each regional meeting throughout the 2000-2001 Regional season.

For those regional meetings nearest to Oklahoma (Colorado, Texas, Kansas), we will actually produce the ID cards at the meeting. For those meetings that are too far away for us to transport the printers by automobile, we will be taking the pictures at the meetings, and produce the cards when we return to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation headquarters. The difference between now and last spring regarding the ID cards, is that we have a person working in Tribal Rolls on a regular basis who is dedicated to the ID card production. For those of you who waited a few months for your cards to be mailed last spring, please accept our apology. We now have the capability to take up to 200 pictures at a meeting and produce all the ID cards the following week.

Let me assure you that our Business Committee members are dedicated to the regional offices and look forward to the meetings. We are sincere in our endeavors to provide new and better services to our tribal members. The ID cards are a great beginning for what we hope is "more to come." I am proud to speak for all our Business Committee members in saying, "We sincerely care about you as a tribal member." As in the past, we invite you to share your ideas when we visit your region. In doing so, you assist us in serving as more effective Business Committee members.



Regional Office Directory

REGION 1 - OREGON/IDAHO

REGION 2 - WASHINGTON

(INCLUDES ALASKA & HAWAII)

Roscoe "Rocky" Baptiste

Box 346, Gervais, OR 97026

Local (503) 792-3744 • FAX (800) 522-3744

Toll-Free (800) 522-3744

e-mail: Region01@Potawatomi.org

REGION 3 - NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Thom Finks

135 Finley St., Auburn CA 95603

Local (530) 887-8102 • FAX (530) 887-8102

1-800-874-8585

e-mail: Region03@potawatomi.org

REGION 4 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Jeremy Bertrand Finch

250 Wigmore Drive, Pasadena, CA 911052921

Local (626) 403-0930 • FAX (800) 432-2008

1-800-432-2008

e-mail: Region04@Potawatomi.org

REGION 5 - SOUTHWEST

(INCLUDES ARIZONA & WESTERN NEW MEXICO)

Gene Lambert

P.O. Box 5905, Mesa, AZ 85211

Local (480) 668-0509 • FAX (480) 649-7443

Toll-Free (800) 452-8966

e-mail: Region05@Potawatomi.org

REGION 6 - COLORADO

(INCLUDES MONTANA, UTAH, WYOMING,
WESTERN NEBRASKA, WESTERN KANSAS)

Cheryl DeGraff

11310 W. 46th Avenue, WheatRidge, CO 80033

1-800-627-5003 • Local 1-303-432-0255

e-mail: Region06@Potawatomi.org

REGION 7 - NORTHERN TEXAS

(INCLUDES EASTERN NEW MEXICO)

Marjorie Hobdy

3132 Kathy Lane, Irving, TX 75060

Local (972) 790-3075 • Toll-Free (800) 742-3075

e-mail: Region07@Potawatomi.org

REGION 8 - SOUTHERN TEXAS

Lu Ellis

26231 Huffsmith-Conroe Rd., Magnolia, TX 77355

Local (281) 356-7957 • Toll-Free (800) 272-7957

e-mail: Region08@Potawatomi.org

REGION 9 - MIDWEST

(INCLUDES EASTERN NEBRASKA & EASTERN KANSAS)

Mary-Ellen Vieux Clinton

P.O. Box 750587, Topeka, KS 66675-0587

Local (785) 235-0134 • Toll-Free (800) 325-6639

e-mail: Region09@Potawatomi.org

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is divided into different "Regional Offices" to help cover the extended membership across the nation. Originally labeled merely by region names, regional boundaries were established in late 1997 using the US Postal Service "3 digit" Zip code areas. Region '0' is generally considered Oklahoma while the other states that are not numbered currently do not have an official "Region" designator.

REGIONAL REPORTS

North Texas

In August in Texas it is easy to hear someone say, "I wish I could go somewhere cool for a while." Well Donna Barnard, the traveling Potawatomi, and I did. We went on the chartered bus to Carter, Wisconsin to the 2000 Gathering of the Potawatomi Nation hosted by the Forest County Potawatomi.

The average temperatures seemed to be in the 60s at night and the low 80s during the day. One day it did not get out of the 70s and that along with the rain that came and went required us to wear our jean jackets for most of the day. I looked at the people with their heavy shirts and jackets and thought that some days in the winter we might need that in Texas.

The setting was beautiful. The grass was green and the wild flowers were like the ones we plant carefully, fertilize, water and watch them die here in this area. Donna and I with the help of our bus captain, Margaret Zientek, picked some of the wild flowers with the idea of bringing them home and making a dried flower bouquet. But when we saw the bugs crawling around on them and not being experts as to what was a tick or something else, we were dissuaded from that idea.

But the walk was fun and it brought us from the grounds that had been fixed for the Gathering back up the hill to the Lodge and the Casino. The food was marvelous, our rooms were wonderful and a few hours spent in the casino either separated us from our money or maybe left some with earnings. I managed to recover enough to buy the hand made basket I was admiring; though not the one I really wanted. The family making the baskets told me I could always order it and I will think about that.

Our traveling companions on the bus were great. It was a nice mix of us elders, the ones younger and the young people. Young people always have a way of livening things up and we all enjoyed that. They brought a nice selection of tapes and I recommend *Smoke Signals*. But as for me, I had already heard the theme from Star Wars far too much when my kids were in the band in high school. Our fellow travelers were Margaret Zientek, bus captain, and her daughter Tesia, Betty Hancock, Pat and Jaylene Brollier (Canada or Burst), Justin Neely, Betty J. Lowrey and her daughter, Mary

Attocknie, Cathy Wamego and her son, Rion, Chris Owens, William and Dorothy Hammons and their son, Matthew, and granddaughter, Kelly L. Townley, Donna Barnard and our faithful bus driver, Bill.

Justin Neely is our budding linguist and took advantage of the language classes taught by Jim Thunder. Betty Lowrey and Mary Attocknie spent three days tanning a deer hide at the Red Deer Ranch. The rest of us tried our hand at the various crafts and classes and some actually finished what they started. A Powwow was held each evening and enjoyed by all. Now we are making plans to go next summer to Canada. Rumor is that we will have to camp out and I am not sure of that. My idea of camping out is a hotel with a restaurant next door. But Canada should be beautiful.

Donna Barnard has promised to do a Power Point presentation about our trip at our meeting November 11 and we hope to find a child friendly location. Mark your calendar with this date and plan to be with us.

— Marj Hobdy

Southwest

Here we are with the year half gone. The Potawatomi Festival was a tremendous success and we are only a few months away from the Regional Meetings.

I think it would be wonderful to have some of us gather again (when it cools down) here in the Southwest Region and have a family day at a park. Everyone has different schedules and many family/work obligations finding the right time to do that could require some comments from you as to the best where, when, would be. Please call the 1-800-452-8955 number with any comments you may have on the subject. A potluck, picnic, ballgames, etc. It would be great to get to know all of you. The more input we get the better job we can do. Add

working together and it is unlimited...well...only by the Almighty.

If there are any of you out there who would like to volunteer on local projects please feel free to call and let me know your interest and telephone number so we can learn and grow together. There

are many celebrations ongoing here in the Southwest for Native American Heritage and it would be great including the Potawatomi Nation as well. Let me know what you think.

As always wishing you health, wealth, happiness and love.

— Gene Lambert

2000-2001 Regional Council Schedule

Denver	Sept. 16, 2000
Eastern United States	Oct. 14, 2000
Dallas	Nov. 11, 2000
Southern California	Jan. 20, 2001
Phoenix	Feb. 10, 2001
Northern California	March 3, 2001
Houston	March 24, 2001
Oregon/Idaho/Washington	April 7, 2001
Kansas	May 5, 2001

TRIBAL TRACTS

Lowden to run for chairman

Potawatomi Brothers and Sisters, my name is Esther Lily (Brown) Lowden, Piyawade (Potawatomi Name). I belong to the Peter Curley family from the Sacred Heart area.

I would like to take this opportunity to announce my decision to run for the elected position of Tribal Chairperson in June of 2001. Over the past year, I have listened to and spoke with many tribal members, especially the elders, who have expressed their views and opinions on the important issues our tribe faces. With much thought and prayer, I have decided to run for the position of Chairperson. I feel both honored and humbled to have been asked by so many tribal members to run for this important position in our tribe.

Once again, we have reached a critical time, as a people and a tribe. Can we maintain our heritage, traditions and language; yet, at the same time progress with the rest of the world? Yes, I think we possess the ability to keep progressing without losing traditions for ourselves and for our future generations.

I am campaigning for all Potawatomis, not for me alone. I feel that every decision we make, every action we take impacts Potawatomis of today and Potawatomis of the future. To maintain a sense, of which we are as a people, our traditions must be maintained and passed on to the next generations. I along with the Business Committee would like to lead tribal members in taking a



Esther Lowden

greater interest in our traditional ways. We must continue to grow and prosper as a tribe in the business world; yet, maintain our heritage and culture. Together with the right kind of leadership we can go forwards to better serve our people.

I have been employed with the Tribe since April of 1990 as Director of the Museum and Gift Shop. I have also served on the Election and Grievance Committees for several years, and took part in coordinating the Pow wows. I am now involved with the spiritual and traditional ceremonies for our

People. It is through these venues that I have developed a nationwide correspondence with our tribal members. I would like to use the position of Chairperson as a platform to be a voice for all Potawatomis. With the help of Tribal members, the Business Committee, and my loving family, we can put self-serving politics aside and create a better environment for Potawatomi children, elders and our community as a whole.

When I was a young girl visiting with my Mother's side of the family, I remember my Osage cousins making fun of me because I was Potawatomi. My uncles scolded them and wiped away my tears, telling me to never be ashamed of whom I was because I came from good people. I knew they were trying to make me feel better, and if they were here today, they could see how strongly I feel about Traditional feast, sweats, teaching the young and old about the foods and sewing the Potawatomi style clothing. I enjoy sharing what I remember from my great Uncle Pierce Curley, Aunt Tilda Nona, John Rhodd, Nick Vieux, Mose Bruno, Tom Delonise and others who would gather around my Uncle's place to feast and visit. As we progress with the new millenium and build a strong future to pass down to our children, lets also pass along the pride we feel for our culture and heritage.

I feel the Potawatomi people are my family, I am proud of the past, and have faith in the future for our people.

Hall of the People now open at natural history museum

A new gallery is now open at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma in Norman. The Hall of People of Oklahoma, a 5,000 square-foot gallery, recently opened to the public. Though the museum opened to the public on May 1, this gallery has been closed until now for ongoing construction.

The Hall of People of Oklahoma traces the history of human habitation in the state from the earliest archaeological evidence, which indicates that people may have lived in Oklahoma as early as 28,000 years ago, to the lifeways of modern Native Americans living in the state today. The gallery is filled with artifacts both ancient and modern that demonstrate how Oklahoma's native people have lived and worked through the centuries. Some of the exhibits in this gallery are the most technically complex of any in the museum. The entrance to the new gallery includes audio elements that allow the museum visitor to hear the voices of Native Americans relating their personal or tribal histories, and a small theatre puts visitors in the middle of a simulated bison hunt as it happened 10,000 years ago.

Although visitors to the museum will now have access to all areas of the Hall of the People of Oklahoma, exhibit construction will continue to be ongoing for the next several weeks. "There are areas of the gallery that are still works in progress," said Pamela Wallace, head of exhibits for the museum. "Many of the artifacts involved are extremely old and very fragile. In order to ensure the safety of these irreplaceable objects, the work on the exhibits must be very painstaking. Some areas will be roped off while contractors continue to put the finishing touches on exhibits. However, most areas are functionally complete and will offer a fascinating experience for our visitors."

Highlights of the gallery include the "Cooper Skull," the painted skull of a now-extinct species of bison that was found just outside of Fort Supply, Okla. The fragile skull, with its ochre-colored zig-zag painted design, dates from about 10,000 years ago, making it the oldest painted object in North America. The Hall of the People of Oklahoma also includes reproductions of thatched-roof houses and a dug-out canoe like those used by the people of the Mississippian Culture, builders of the famous Spiro Mounds in southeastern Oklahoma.

The Hall of the People of Oklahoma was designed in partnership with a Native American Advisory Board, made up of representatives from several different tribes within Oklahoma. The Advisory Board worked with museum scientists and exhibit designers for nearly five years to create a gallery with a unique blend of Native American and scientific voices.

"The opening of the Hall of the People of Oklahoma is the culmination of a tremendous amount of work done by both the scientists and the Native American community over the past five years," said Wallace. "We are excited to give the public the opportunity to come and appreciate it and understand the stories that we are trying to tell with these beautiful exhibits."

In the fall, a special grand opening event will be held in partnership with the museum's Native American Advisory Board, the museum, and the Native American communities to celebrate the completion of the gallery.

The Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission fees are \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors 65 or older, and \$2 for children 6 to 17. Children 5 and under are free. For additional information, call (405) 325-4712, or visit the museum's Web page: www.snomnh.ou.edu.

Perfect Health

Perfect Health, 3750 W. Main in Norman, OK introduces an allergy desensitizing technique known as Nambudripad Allergy Elimination Technique (NAET).

Kandace Comeaux, descendant of Pierre Nervure and Angelique Kechenchoway, received her certification in NAET in 1997 and is offering this technique to people who suffer from severe allergies. Through NAET, allergies can be eliminated without pills, allergy shots or drugs of any kind. Thousands of people have benefited from this method of treatment. Symptoms including headaches, alcoholism, asthma, arthritis, hyperactivity, attention deficit disorder, depression, insomnia, chronic fatigue syndrome, Fibromyalgia, blood related disorders, pre-menstrual syndrome (PMS), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), lung problems and a variety of other allergy based health problems can be treated using NAET.

For more information, contact Kandace Comeaux at the Perfect Health Clinic (405) 447-6448.

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Minority businesses honored

By Margaret Zientek

The Annual Oklahoma Native American Business Development Center Awards Dinner was held August 17, 2000 at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Minority Business Owners and Tribal representatives gathered from across the state to recognize this year's honorees.

An impressive list of Oklahoma Business and individuals received recognition for their efforts and successes. Among those honored: Assistant Secretary Kevin Gover; Red Man Pipe & Supply; B&N Construction; Seminole Nation Travel Plaza; Charles Chibitty; Deerwater Environmental Management; Cherokee Builders, Inc.; Key Telecom, Inc.; Flintco Construction Co.; Cherokee Nation Industries; Tommy Thompson; Bowers Trousers; S.S. Medical, Inc.; Full Circle Benefit Consultants; Vivian Peques; Oklahoma Representative Don Ross; and Oklahoma State Senator J. Berry Harrison.

Co-sponsors of the awards included: Minority Business Development Agency; U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Div. Of Employ-

ment & Training; Dept. of Labor; American Indian Chamber of Commerce; Oklahoma Department of Transportation; Conoco; American Airlines; Spirit Bank; Deliotte and Touche, LLP; Southwestern Bell; Human Rights Dept., City of Tulsa; and the Oklahoma Minority Suppliers Development Council.

Former Cherokee Principal Chief Ross Swimmer was the Keynote Speaker. Additional congratulatory remarks were made by John Iglehart of the Minority Business Development Authority for the Dallas Region.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has been honored for the Tribe's Minority Business Development Efforts. Joining this year's celebration to honor our neighbor's accomplishments were Citizen Potawatomi Nation staff including: Shirl Eastep, Human Resource Director; Carol Clay Levi, Employment & Training (E&T) Program Director; Margaret Zientek, E&T Assistant Director; and Judy Shed, E & T Job Developer.



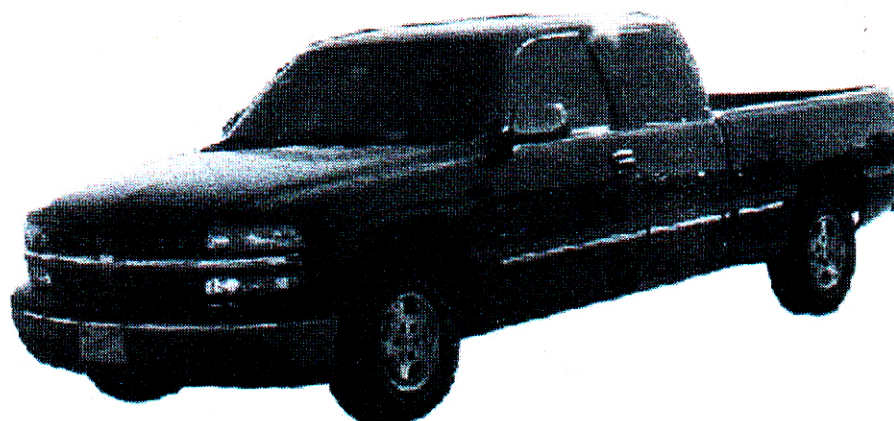
Judy Shed, Margaret Zientek, Carol Clay-Levi, Shirl Eastep

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Oldsmobile

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Visit Harvey's - owned and operated by a Potawatomi tribal member.

* All factory and national rebates apply